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LETTER DATED 29 MARCH 1996 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 29 March 1996 addressed to you by Mr. Abd al-Ghani Abd al-Ghafur, Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Letter dated 29 March 1996 from the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to inform you that the Iraqi authorities have apprehended a group of agents who had been recruited by the intelligence services of the Kuwaiti regime to carry out acts of sabotage with a view to undermining security and stability in Iraq and targeting members of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) at their posts and during their patrols along the Iraq-Kuwait boundary. In an interview shown on Iraqi television on the evening of Thursday, 28 March 1996, the agents (of whom there are six) confessed that they had been recruited by a Kuwaiti intelligence officer named Muhammad Yusuf al-Kunduri to spy on the cargoes being carried by ships arriving at the port of Umm Qasr, to gather information on the economic situation in Iraq and to engage in other forms of espionage. The intelligence services of the regime in question provided the agents with weapons so that they could carry out acts of sabotage and engage in terrorist activities against UNIKOM personnel performing their duties along the border between the two countries and thus create a climate of hostility against Iraq by making it appear to be the party responsible for these acts.

Some of them also confessed to having collected fingerprints from random Iraqi citizens for presentation to the intelligence services of the Kuwaiti regime as those of missing Kuwaitis being held in Iraq. The fingerprints were thus to be used as evidence of the existence of such missing persons, despite the fact that they know this to be false.

The agents also confessed that the intelligence services of the Kuwaiti regime, acting in cooperation with the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), assigned them to gather information on the movement, deployment and armament of the Republican Guard inside Iraqi territory.

The information given by this group of agents provides conclusive evidence of the involvement of the Kuwaiti regime and its intelligence services, in cooperation with the CIA, in actions aimed at undermining security and stability in Iraq and interfering in its internal affairs in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the norms of international law. This requires that the regime in question should be held directly responsible for any damage arising from the actions of these paid agents.

As it condemns these despicable actions by the Kuwaiti regime, the Government of the Republic of Iraq urges you to intervene in order to prevent any repetition of such actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Amd al-Ghani ABD AL-GHAFUR
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq